



County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

April 13, 2007

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

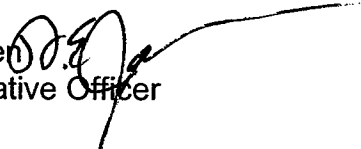
YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen 
Chief Administrative Officer

**MOTION TO SUPPORT SENATE BILL 680 (RIDLEY-THOMAS) – LEGISLATION TO
CONTINUE FUNDING THE SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ON A
PERMANENT BASIS (ITEM NO. 15 - AGENDA OF APRIL 17, 2007)**

Item No. 15 on the April 17, 2007 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Knabe recommending that the Board of Supervisors support SB 680; send a five-signature letter to the Governor, the Assembly Speaker, the Senate President Pro Tempore, and the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation expressing the Board's support for the bill; and instruct the County's Legislative Advocates in Sacramento to support SB 680.

As amended on April 9, 2007, SB 680 would permanently establish the Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAP) to facilitate the inclusion of children with disabilities and other special needs into existing State-subsidized child care programs. The bill would appropriate \$3.6 million in the 2007 State Budget to the California Department of Education for allocation to local resource and referral agencies for the following purposes:

- 1) to provide enhanced child care referrals to parents seeking child care for children with or at risk of being identified with disabilities or other special needs;
- 2) to provide or contract for various services including, but not limited to, training and technical assistance for child care and development providers who care for children with disabilities and special needs;

- 3) to conduct awareness and outreach to child care and development providers to increase their knowledge and understanding of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and
- 4) to conduct outreach to the parents of children with disabilities and special needs to increase their understanding of their rights to accessible child care and to increase their awareness of available services.

The 2005 State budget appropriated \$5.0 million for the SNAP program. The sponsors of SB 680 report that between January 2006 and September 2006, SNAP provided vital services to thousands of special needs children and their families, including enhanced child care referrals, provider training, assistance in locating child care for children with disabilities, and outreach services for parents and providers. SB 680 will continue and expand SNAP. The Departments of Public Social Services and Children and Family Services recommend that the County support SB 680, and we concur. **Support for SB 680 is consistent with existing Board policy to support increased funding to provide all children, including children with special needs, high-quality early care and education services.**

SB 680 is sponsored by the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network and the Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles. There is no registered opposition on file. The bill is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Human Services Committee on April 24, 2007.

DEJ:GK
MAL:VE:acn

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Department of Children and Family Services
Department of Public Social Services
Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles